

the rank of lieutenant colonel. After the war he rose to become editor of The Charlotte News in North Carolina. He went to The Arkansas Gazette as editor of its editorial page in 1947 and was promoted to executive editor.

In addition to his wife, the former Barbara Edith Laier, whom he married in 1940, Mr. Ashmore is survived by a daughter, Anne Ashmore of Washington.●

PRAISING CRAIG A. HIGGINS FOR HIS SENATE SERVICE

● Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, Mr. Craig A. Higgins, Clerk of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, recently announced that he will soon be joining the National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health as its Senior Advisor for Legislative Affairs. I offer him, on behalf of all my Senate colleagues, our goodwill and best wishes as he assumes his new duties and responsibilities at NIH.

Mr. Higgins has served with loyalty and with distinction in the United States Senate for nearly 18 years. He has worked for Senator Mark O. Hatfield as a legislative assistant from 1980 to 1987. He then joined the subcommittee staff, becoming Clerk of the subcommittee in 1995. He is well known to be a dedicated and conscientious staff member who, like many staff members, has spent countless hours of energy, time, and effort in producing bills, reports, and hearings. During his stewardship of our subcommittee, Craig has continued the tradition of bipartisanship in the formulation of this very important bill. He understands the many needs of the American people and sought constructive solutions to better enable our government to address those needs. He devoted considerable time helping individual constituents and informing the public about the work of the subcommittee.

Craig has earned the respect of the leadership of these agencies and of the Members and staff of the Senate by being fair, responsive, and helpful. Both Democrats and Republicans have trusted his advice and counsel as our subcommittee confronted the many issues.

In his new position at NIH, Craig will no doubt continue his outstanding work in advancing the promise of genome research. With his professionalism and legislative experience, he brings to the task exceptional talent and energy, and I have the highest degree of confidence that his ability and dedication will continue his remarkable record of excellence.

I would take this opportunity again to thank Craig for his service to our subcommittee. As a devoted father to his children, Keith and Kristin, and husband to his wife, Wendy, Craig, like the many other parents in our workforce, has balanced home life with career. In many ways, his work in the Senate is motivated in large part in securing a stronger future for all fami-

lies, including his own. I join my Senate colleagues in wishing Craig well and we expect for him to continue the highest traditions of excellence at his new post at the National Human Genome Research Institute.●

CRS PRODUCTS OVER THE INTERNET

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise to offer my support to legislation introduced by Senator MCCAIN, S. 1578, to make Congressional Research Service Reports, Issue Briefs, and Authorization and Appropriations products available over the Internet to the general public.

I applaud the goal of this legislation to allow every citizen the same access to the wealth of information at the Congressional Research Service (CRS) as a Member of Congress enjoys today. CRS performs invaluable research and produces first-rate reports on hundreds of topics. The taxpayers of this country, who pay CRS's annual budget of \$60 million, deserve speedy access to these wonderful resources.

I understand that the staff at CRS has raised some questions about how this bill may affect their charter mandate to provide "confidential analysis and information exclusively for Congressional clients." I want to work with Senator MCCAIN, the other cosponsors of this bill and the Senate Rules Committee to ensure that Members who request confidential research have control over the release of that research. But we can do both—protect truly confidential research and give our citizens electronic access to non-confidential CRS products.

I want to commend the Senior Senator from Arizona for his leadership on opening public access to Congressional documents. I share his desire for the American people to have electronic access to many more Congressional resources. I look forward to working with him in the days to come on harnessing the power of the information age to open up the halls of Congress to all our citizens.●

REGULATING DUNGENESS CRAB HARVEST ON THE WEST COAST

● Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I rise today to state that I intend, with my colleague from Washington state, Senator MURRAY, to introduce legislation shortly after this recess to ensure fair management of Dungeness crab on the West Coast. The legislation is supported by the Pacific Fishery Management Council, and represents an agreement reached by industry representatives, tribal representatives, and state fishery management agencies in Washington, Oregon, and California. The legislation will extend and expand the current interim authority for these states to manage Dungeness crab beyond three miles from their shores.

Historically, the crab fisheries off the coasts of California, Oregon, and Wash-

ington have been managed by the three states, and through cooperative agreements between them. The state jurisdiction, however, extends only to three miles. This limitation is particularly significant in Washington state, where approximately 60-80 percent of the crab is caught beyond three miles. While states can regulate their own fishermen beyond three miles, they have not historically been able to regulate fishermen from other states.

Although Washington, Oregon, and California have all adopted limited entry programs to conserve and manage crab, Oregon vessels can and do fish for Dungeness crab in waters more than three miles off Washington, and, until interim authority was granted in 1996 in the Sustainable Fisheries Act, Washington could not regulate these vessels. The same, of course, was true of Washington vessels fishing off the coast of Oregon.

The problem with the inability to manage out-of-state vessels beyond three miles became critical in 1995, when a Federal district court allocated a large portion of the crab to Indian tribes, and threatened in this way to deprive non-tribal fishermen, who have been fishing for generations, of their livelihoods. Without the ability to regulate vessels from Oregon, all of the allocation to the tribes would come from Washington non-tribal fishermen. This simply is not fair. The bill I will introduce will continue to give the fishery managers in Oregon, California, and Washington, the authority to regulate all crabbers equally in the exclusive economic zone adjacent to the state. This regulatory authority will help to ensure that the cost of the tribal allocation will be borne more fairly by all commercial crabbers who fish in the EEZ adjacent to Washington, not just crabbers whose vessels are registered in the state.

As I mentioned, in 1996, I succeeded in obtaining a provision in the Sustainable Fisheries Act, which gave limited interim authority to the West Coast states to manage the Dungeness crab fishery beyond three miles. This interim authority expires in 1999. It was anticipated that the Pacific Council would, by that time, prepare a Fishery Management Plan that could be delegated to the states. The Council has determined, however, through a careful, public, and inclusive process, that, given the unique nature of the West Coast fisheries in which you have effective state management, cooperation among the states, and agreement on the legislation I will introduce, there is no need for Federal management of this fishery.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to secure quick passage of the bill.●

PHILIP HITCH

● Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, the Defense Department and Congress recently lost an able and dedicated adviser. Mr. Philip Hitch, Department of